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Without detracting in the least from the author's strong statement of the benefits and possibilities of neutralization, it may be said that his alluring prospect would seem to have a more substantial basis if it rested upon, not only a positive guarantee, but a guarantee to which the entire Family of Nations would adhere. The lesson taught by Russia when it disregarded the neutralization of the Black Sea at a time when the other guarantors were occupied with great wars near at home, is an illustration of the pressing need that nothing less than the guarantee of all the powers in conference at The Hague shall stand behind existing and future applications of the principle.

WM. I. HULL.

Swarthmore College.

Wood, M. E. *The New Italy.* Pp. xiv, 406. Price \$1.50. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1911.

Mr. Garlanda seeks to give his countrymen an illustration of an ideal government. The United States is taken as a perfect model. American institutions are compared with those of Italy. This he does in the guise of a "Yankee," and his book in the original text is called "Letters of a Yankee." The author believed that these letters coming from an American were sure to call out a responsive audience. The translator says that "the assumption was justified." Mr. Garlanda follows the idea of Mr. Lowes Dickinson in his "Letters of a Chinese Official." Mr. Garlanda's book covers a wider field, is more voluminous, goes further into details, but lacks the point, particularity and cleverness of the English work. A few pages will suffice to inform the reader that the book was not written by an American. In many instances the author seems to be badly misinformed as to existing conditions in this country.

The book opens with a flowery description of Italy, such as an Italian only can utter. Then follows a brief history of the Italian Revolution. A short letter on Elements of Centralization precedes the letter on the Italian Fiscal System, which is the fourth of the series. In this fourth letter the author shows a profound knowledge of the subject. The history, system, and administration of the revenue raising department of the Italian government are well explained. The author cleverly boils down the present system in Italy where he says: "For her fiscal system, Italy took here a little and there a little, from all sides. I verily believe that she gathered together all the taxes that were ever applied, or even ever imagined, in whatsoever part of the earth."

After this comes a comparison of government control and supervision of corporations. The American system is the ideal—the Italian, antiquated, unjust, oppressive. These comparisons are especially amusing to Americans. In decrying the Italian system, Mr. Garlanda states exactly what the American people have been endeavoring to do for many years—what he calls unjust, antiquated and oppressive may be found in the latest federal and state statutes of this country and in proposed legislation. The author seems not to have kept abreast with current events concerning corporations in this country, for if he had he might well have reversed his comparisons.

The Church and State, Education and Art, Lynch-Law and Mafia, Courts, and Family Life are among the subjects of his letters.

A somewhat startling fact is brought out in the letter entitled "The Army." The Italian African campaign (Abyssinia 1896) is reviewed and the defeat of the Italian army is attributed to the personal ambition of the commander-in-chief, General Baratieri. The Italian public will surely want to hear more of the "matters not yet published" and coming from "sources absolutely trustworthy."

"The Political Organization" is the topic of the sixteenth letter. This letter is apt to mislead the Italian readers. The author is agitating and encouraging in political parties exactly what this country is seeking to destroy. The lack of organization and party work in Italy with which the author would find fault, certainly speaks well of the Italian civil service. If "Yankee" will investigate further along the lines of "patronage" he will discover what holds the "dominant parties" together. And what will many good Americans say when they read on page 319: "There is no self-respecting American who does not belong to a party, and generally to one of the two dominant ones, the republican or the democratic." (?)

The translation by Mr. Wood is a masterpiece. He keeps closely to the original Italian text, and to those familiar with Italian his work will be greatly appreciated. The translation of the description of the "Latifondo," given in a footnote to a letter on that subject deserves high commendation.

FIGURELLO H. LA GUARDIA.

New York,